

NRD WATER QUALITY PROGRAM AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA BIENNIAL REVIEW QUARTERLY UPDATE



October through December 2011

Management Area: North Coast Basin

Meeting Date(s): September 7, 2011

LAC Members Present: Dale Buck, Chair, Dan Avery, Randy Bergman, Margaret Magruder, Lisa Phipps, Mike Seppa,

Kay C. VanNatta

Implementation Summary:

Outreach and Education:

- Presentations/workshops to over 3,000 landowners
- Displays at community events reaching over 2,000 visitors
- 5,000+ brochures disseminated
- 20 newspaper articles, 4 press releases and 3 radio interviews
- Development of Rural Living Handbooks for 3 counties
- 3,000+ landowners contacted via targeted outreach mailings and door-to-door site visits

Planning:

- 45 conservation plans completed
- 45,000+ feet of exclusionary fencing installed
- 9 waste storage facilities installed
- 3,200 acres prescribed grazing
- 65 acres of riparian planting and habitat restoration
- 5,500 feet of instream habitat improvements
- 5 roof runoff structures installed

Monitoring:

- 1 hydrologic survey was completed on Sauvie Island (~11,000 acres)
- Intensive soil nitrate monitoring with 11 landowners on 40+ fields on Sauvie Island

Funding and Grants:

- Clatsop SWCD secured \$49,400 in grant funding from OWEB and DEQ
- Columbia SWCD secured over \$475,000 in grant funding from OWEB, Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership, ODFW, USFWS and NRCS
- Tillamook SWCD secured over \$100,000 in grant funding from DEQ and Tillamook County
- W. Multnomah SWCD secured \$27,000 in grant funding from OWEB and DEQ

Progress Measurement:

- DEQ water quality monitoring data are showing that the Wilson River in the Tillamook Bay Watershed is now meeting water quality standards for bacteria
- In two years concentrated outreach efforts along Merrill Creek in Columbia County have resulted in 80% of rural and agricultural landowners working with the SWCD to conduct riparian restoration projects. Of the 15,554 ft. of streambank roughly 75% was identified to be in poor condition during the pre-assessment phase. To date, there is a 12% improvement in these identified areas due to active management strategies

Summary of Impediments:

- There is a lack of resources for staffing
- Small acreage hobby farms and pet animal owners (e.g. horses) need education on the agricultural water quality rules

Recommendations for Modifications:

- Focusing resources in smaller geographic priority areas to measure progress, while continuing to serve the entire county
- Tightening the Goals and Objectives to strengthen the sufficiency of the plan and rules in preventing and controlling water pollution from agricultural lands
- Adding language about supporting plans the Pesticide Management Plan and DEQ's Watershed Approach Strategic Action Plan

Enforcement: In Compliance -2 Advisories -0 Warnings -2 NONs -0 Civil Penalties -0 Alternative Measures -0

Total Complaints: 4

Notes: The LOW and the WQA are on-going complaints regarding manure management and lack of riparian vegetation.

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